



## **MAJOR GENERAL (Ret.) JAMES H. BASSHAM**



### **DIRECTOR TENNESSEE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY**

Major General (Ret.) James H. Bassham is the Director, Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, Military Department of Tennessee. Major General Bassham served as the Assistant Adjutant General, Air, Tennessee National Guard from 1995 to 2002. The TEMA Director is charged with the responsibility for insuring the state and its local governments are prepared to deal with the disasters and emergencies that affect the state and its citizens. In addition to the responsibility to help insure that the citizens of Tennessee are as prepared to deal with emergencies and their consequences as possible.

The general entered the Air Force in 1963 following graduation from the University of Arkansas as an Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps Distinguished Graduate. He was released from active duty in 1969 and joined the Tennessee Air National Guard in 1970. He has commanded squadrons, groups, and a wing prior to assuming his position as Assistant Adjutant General in February 1995.

### **EDUCATION:**

1963 Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville  
1974 Air Command and Staff College, by correspondence  
1976 Industrial College of the Armed Forces, by correspondence

### **ASSIGNMENTS:**

1. June 1963 - June 1964, student, undergraduate navigator training, James Connally Air Force Base, Texas
2. June 1964 - December 1964, student, navigator-bombardier training, Mather Air Force Base, Calif.
3. December 1964- January 1969, B-52G navigator/bombardier, 340th Bomb Squadron School, Blytheville Air Force Base, Ark.
4. January 1969 - April 1970, inactive status, HQ ARPC (NARS), Denver, Colo.
5. April 1970 - August 1972, C-124 Navigator, 155th Military Airlift Squadron, Memphis, Tenn.
6. August 1972 - May 1973, C-124 Navigator examiner, 155th Military Airlift Squadron, Memphis, Tenn.
7. May 1973 - October 1974, Air operations officer, 164th Military Airlift Group, Memphis, Tenn.
8. October 1974- May 1976, C-130A Navigator examiner, 164th Tactical Airlift Group, Memphis, Tenn.
9. May 1976 - December 1978, C-130A Navigator examiner, 155th Tactical Airlift Squadron, Memphis, Tenn.
10. December 1978 - December 1979, C-130A Chief of standardization/evaluation, 155th Tactical Airlift Group, Memphis, Tenn.
11. December 1979 - November 1980, C-130A operations officer, 155th Tactical Airlift Squadron, Memphis, Tenn.
12. November 1980 - July 1982, C-130A Navigator, chief of standardization/evaluation, 164th Tactical Airlift Group, Memphis, Tenn.
13. July 1982 - July 1984, Commander, 155 Tactical Airlift Squadron, Memphis, Tenn.
14. July 1984 - July 1987, Commander, 164th Resource Maintenance Squadron, Memphis, Tenn.

15. July 1987 - July 1989, Deputy commander for support, 164th Tactical Airlift Group, Memphis, Tenn.
16. July 1989 - July 1992, Deputy commander for operations, 164th Airlift Group, Memphis, Tenn.
17. July 1992 - November 1993, Vice commander, 164th Airlift Group, Memphis, Tenn.
18. November 1993 - February 1995, Commander, 164th Airlift Group, Memphis, Tenn.
19. February 1995 – July 2002, Assistant Adjutant General for Air, Headquarters Tennessee Air National Guard, Nashville, Tenn.
20. July 2002 – July 2003, budget officer, Tennessee Military Department
21. July 2003 – Present, Director, Tennessee Emergency Management Agency

## **FLIGHT INFORMATION:**

Rating: Master navigator

Flight hours: More than 9,500 hours

Aircraft flown: B52G, C-124, C-130A, C-141B

Navigator wings from: James Connally Air Force Base, Texas

## **MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:**

Legion of Merit

Meritorious Service Medal with 2 devices

Air Force Commendation Medal with 1 device

Air Force Achievement Medal

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with 1 device

Combat Readiness Medal with 2 devices,

National Defense Service Medal with 1 device

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal,

Vietnam Service Medal

Southeast Asia Service Medal

Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon with 6 devices

Armed Forces Reserve Medal with 1 device

Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon with 1 device

Air Force Training Ribbon

Vietnam Gallantry Cross with palm

Vietnam Campaign Medal

Tennessee National Guard Distinguished Service Medal

Tennessee National Guard Commendation Ribbon

## **EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTIONS:**

Second Lieutenant Jun 29, 1963

First Lieutenant Jun 29, 1966

Captain Feb 1, 1969

Major Aug 13, 1973

Lieutenant Colonel Mar 1, 1980

Colonel Dec 1, 1989

Brigadier General Jan 26, 1996

Major General Mar 5, 1998

(Current as of July 2003)